CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An electronic appliance implemented method comprising:

(a) ascertaining a current location/location type of the electronic appliance;

(b) identifying an appliance personality from a plurality of available personalities based, at least in part, on the ascertained current location/location type of the electronic appliance; and

(c) provisioning the identified appliance personality on the electronic appliance.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein provisioning the appliance personality comprises:

selecting and providing a user interface and an application set from a plurality of available user interfaces and application sets to reflect the identified appliance personality.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein ascertaining the position of the electronic appliance comprises:

(a.1) receiving one or more signals containing information from a corresponding one or more sources;

(a.2) extracting information embedded within the received one or more signals; and

(a.3) determining the current location/location type of the electronic appliance from the information associated with the received one or more signals.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein the one or more sources are satellites designed to provide a global positioning system (GPS) signal.

5. The method of claim 3, wherein one or more sources are cellular communication transmitters designed to provide a plurality of control signals containing information regarding a location of the transmitters and a timestamp of when the received signal(s) were transmitted.

6. The method of claim 3, wherein the current location/location type of the electronic appliance is calculated using a triangulation technique.

7. The method of claim 3, wherein the current location/location type of the electronic appliance is determined by cross referencing a calculated relative position against a database of locations.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of appliance personalities are pre-programmed in the appliance and reside in an interface database.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of appliance personalities are stored in one or more memory cards which are removably coupled to the electronic appliance.

10. An electronic appliance comprising:

a receiver, coupled to an antenna, to receive signals including information;

a processor, coupled to the receiver, to determine a location of the electronic appliance from the received signals; and

a storage medium having stored therein a plurality of processor executable instructions for selectively implementing a plurality of appliance personalities for the electronic appliance, wherein an appropriate appliance personality from the plurality of appliance personality is selected and provisioned by the processor based, at least in part, on the determined location of the electronic appliance.

11. The electronic appliance of claim 10, wherein the storage medium is removably coupled to the electronic appliance.

12. The electronic appliance of claim 10, wherein the storage medium has stored therein a plurality of instructions for a plurality of user interfaces and application sets which are selectively executed by the processor to provision appliance personalities.

13. The electronic appliance of claim 10, wherein the antenna is a global positioning system (GPS) antenna.

14. The electronic appliance of claim 10, wherein the antenna is a radio frequency (RF) antenna.

15. The electronic appliance of claim 10, wherein the antenna is a photovoltaic cell operative to receive infrared (IR) signals.

16. The electronic appliance of claim 10, wherein the plurality of appliance personalities includes a personality unique to a home environment.

17. The electronic appliance of claim 10, wherein the plurality of appliance personalities includes a personality unique to an office operating environment.

18. The electronic appliance of claim 10, wherein the plurality of appliance personalities includes a personality tailored for a mobile operating environment.

19. A storage medium having stored therein a plurality of executable instructions which, when executed, implement an appliance personality provisioning system having a number of functions, including a location identification function which determines a current location of a host appliance, a personality selection function which selects an appliance personality from a plurality of appliance personalities available to the host appliance based, at least in part, on the identified current location of the host appliance, and a function to provision a selected personality on the host appliance.

20. The storage medium of claim 19, wherein the plurality of executable instructions further include instructions to implement a plurality of user interfaces and a plurality of application sets corresponding to the plurality of available appliance personalities.